

THE MAUI NEWS

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EDITOR AND MANAGER

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IN THE NAME OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

Unless the whole territory is willing to become simply the tail of the Honolulu kite, it is high time to be getting busy.

Governor McCarthy has asked the census bureau for figures on the voting strength of the territory by districts, so that the legislature at its regular session beginning next February shall have no excuse for further deferring the reapportionment of senators and representatives.

Under the Organic Act this reapportionment is mandatory. Based on the disproportionate growth of Honolulu it seems quite certain that city, under the new arrangement, will have a voting strength in both house and senate that will outweigh all the rest of the territory combined. Nobody can conscientiously say that this is right or just. In the days before county government the territory used to be ruled largely from Honolulu, and it was anything but satisfactory. It cannot be any less satisfactory now. The framers of the Organic Act simply did not foresee the overwhelming growth of Honolulu or they would certainly have provided some means for preventing such an unjust domination as now seems likely.

At the present time Oahu has 6 of the 15 senators, and 12 of the 30 representatives in the legislature. Under the reapportionment it will only take 4 of each, taken from the other islands, to give her a majority in voting strength in both branches.

Before such event occurs an effort should be made to have the Congress amend the Organic Act so as to prevent a result so manifestly unfair. The rest of the territory should be glad to have the city of Honolulu proper given a modern charter under which she may exercise the broadest kind of self-government, unhampered by the country districts. At the same time she should be strictly limited in her powers of legislation outside of her own boundaries.

Unless this is done the same old log-rolling tactics which have disgusted decent citizens in the past will continue in aggravated form to the detriment of the best interests of both city and country.

BACK UP AN AIR SERVICE

A mainland concern which has been successfully operating commercial airplanes between the Great Lake cities for several years, has come forward with an apparently straightforward proposition to establish a regular inter-island service. It offers to put up 51 percent of the capital needed provided the people of Hawaii will subscribe the remainder.

If the mainland company is responsible and really means business, Hawaii will be shortsighted in the extreme if she fails to accept the proposition or to launch a similar one independently. There is plenty of money in the Islands that could be used for the purpose without financially hurting anyone.

It is true that the enterprise would be in a degree speculative, but it would be as a gilt-edged investment compared with some of the "oil," "mining," and other shady propositions which at this very moment are garnering thousands of dollars from the credulous suckers in this territory—money which is almost certain never to come back.

There is no question as to the physical practicability of operating airplanes between the Islands. It has been done sufficiently often to demonstrate this. But it is not so clear how it would work out from a profit-making standpoint. This is the only real uncertainty. With regular planes flying between Honolulu, Kahului and Hilo carrying mail and passengers, there is no question that they would be well patronized unless the rates were made altogether prohibitive.

Even if the enterprise planned by the Detroit firm should prove a losing venture it would not be money altogether wasted, for the experience would be of much value in future efforts. Any thinking person must admit that sooner or later air transportation will come. And because it is more needed here than in most other parts of the world it is going to, eventually, amply reward the men who succeed in making it a reality.

LET'S LOOK TO OUR OWN FENCES

The report that Senator Harding has promised that he will appoint the negro Cottrell as governor of Hawaii in case he is elected president, may be simply a democratic roorback. Then again there may be some truth in it. We cannot forget that nobody in the Islands believed that President Taft would appoint Cottrell to the position of collector of internal revenue in Hawaii until he did that very thing.

Looking at the matter from the mainland viewpoint there is nothing at all surprising in it. In the first place it must not be forgotten that Hawaii's opinions have very little weight—she has not vote. Then again the popular impression in the continental United States is that Hawaii is largely alien anyhow, made up of a mixture of about everything except Americans. With such an impression in his mind, even the best intentioned candidate might be excused for strengthening his fences to make more secure the vote of as important an element of the population as is the negro vote today.

It is not well for us to take anything for granted in this connection, most of all that Senator Harding and his advisers know all that they might about Hawaii. A prompt campaign of education directed towards that quarter would certainly not be amiss, and it might be the means of saving our feelings a little later on.

When, oh, when are we going to get a boat that is suited to the demands of Kauai's traveling public. For months just the Kinau has been overcrowded, both going and coming, with first cabin passengers, who pay \$9.72 for the trip, sleeping on mattresses on deck.—Kauai Garden Island.

Why not give them the Claudine? Maui long ago outgrew this boat and was tentatively promised another, but the promise seems to have got lost in the shuffle.

We understand that Lorrin Andrews and L. L. McCandless are hopelessly divided in their opinions on the presidential campaign.—Star-Bulletin.

Why hopeless? The annals of politics are full of stranger things than an Andrews-McCandless diplomatic understanding.

Unless you have registered with the County Clerk within the past year you will not be able to vote. If you are as good a citizen as you would like to have your neighbors be, you will only need this reminder to do your duty. Do it now!

It might be interesting to know who pays for the County Clerk's legal advice since he doesn't see fit to take that of the County Attorney. The county, of course, will foot the bill in connection with the abortive special election.

It is reported that Andrews, Brown and Wise are planning to come to Maui to campaign for Kuhio. The idea is a good one. They are certain of an interested hearing. They should come early and avoid the rush.

Somebody seriously upset the peace of mind of J. Harvey Raymond, manager of the Ulupalakua Ranch, by showing him a clipping from the MAUI NEWS stating that 15 head of horses had been shot at Ulupalakua on account of glanders and that other cases had since been reported. We plead guilty to having printed the cannard, and admit that we do not know of any cases of glanders existing on Maui at the present time. We might add, however, that Mr. Raymond's friend probably took the precaution to cut the heading from the column, which reads—"Maui Twenty Years Ago."

"Who am I to presume to baragin and sell the Oahu election to the Maui bosses?" cries John Wise. Echo answers—"Hoot!"

Our Contemporaries

BOUQUETS FOR MACCAUGHEY
(Hilo Post-Herald.)

Few men in this country ever came with better grace to a more thankless job than that undertaken by Vaughan MacCaughey, in assuming the superintendency of public instruction. Seriously handicapped by insufficient appropriations, based upon inaccurate data furnished by his predecessors, he has reaped a crop of criticism the seeds of which were sown by another. Yet in all the criticism of his department, Mr. MacCaughey has not as yet taken shelter behind that excuse.

Although the last year has been open season for those gunning for the department of public instruction; and although a large number of the bulls' eyes were rung on the person of the superintendent, it is encouraging to note in a recent issue of the Paradise of the Pacific, that what Mr. MacCaughey has accomplished as well as what he has attempted has not passed entirely unnoticed, unhonored, or unsung.

The near-revolt of the school-teachers of the Territory in the matter of the addition of half an hour a day to their scholastic duties, has provided plenty of news of more or less interest, for our local press.

Whatever may be the merits or demerits of the case, we feel that a great deal of undeserved opprobrium has been poured out upon the head of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

No one who has taken the trouble to follow the career of Mr. Vaughan MacCaughey since his acceptance of his onerous and unenviable office can have failed to realize the earnestness of his efforts to improve the lot of the teachers. It has been charged against him that he is a dreamer and an idealist, but he should be given full credit for his habit of turning his ideals into practice.

The Territory should not overlook the fact that he is faced with tremendous difficulties in the shape of inadequate funds, inadequate buildings and in many cases, inadequate teachers. It is his task to make bricks without straw and to shoulder the criticisms arising from such conditions.

tions as these, and even his enemies will admit that he handles his problems with far more face and courage than his predecessors.

There is room for improvement in most things and it may be that the release of certain pedagogues whose ideas of progress have hardly kept pace with these days of rapid advancement, would be beneficial to the school system as a whole. But after all, the Superintendent is the man appointed to attend to matters of this kind, and we realize that he is obliged to feel his way carefully. It is the indisputable right of every American to criticize as he pleases within reasonable limits, but we are confident that we express the opinion of the majority of the people of this community when we assert that in Superintendent MacCaughey we have at the head of our public schools a man who looks upon the teachers as a human being rather than as a mere machine; a man whose face is steadfastly set in the right direction and who deserves all the support we can possibly give him.

SKY-SCRAPER LAND VALUES

(Kauai Garden Island.)

Recently on Hawaii, at Papaaloa, a tract of land was sold by private sale at the rate of \$346 an acre. If it had been nice-looking, fertile sugar land, such as we have here on Kauai, this price would not have been out of the way, perhaps. But, as a matter of fact it was a narrow ridge, significantly named "the thin bone," "Kaiwi-lahi-lahi"—steep and irregular—about the poorest piece of land in the neighborhood. That it sold for any such figure and for ordinary plantation purposes, indicates what we are coming to, or have come to.

Heretofore through all that country, such lands were rated at about \$100 an acre. Undoubtedly that was too low, but the new rating would seem to be much too high. Will the crops from such lands justify any such values?

And it is not sugar lands alone which are soaring away up into the sky. We hear of pineapple lands over at Molokai that were supposed to be worth \$40 or \$50 an acre, renting out to Japanese pine growers for an equivalent of \$50 or \$60 a year rental.

Will the returns justify any such rent?

And the same thing is true of rice land. We hear of rice land at Wailua very ordinary land at that, for which the rent was 30 per cent of the crop, which translated into cash proved to be about a hundred dollars an acre.

The Jap hul which worked the land mournfully admitted that it was "bad business," "Too much lose money!"

There is an optimism that is folly—it doesn't pan out—and there is a good deal of it about these days.

THE "REDS OF '91"

Next time you wake up with mental dyspepsia and want to eradicate the radicals by the "shoot 'em at sunrise" formula, give a thought to the old-time Populists.

If you were old enough in 1891 (and being conservatively minded, as you probably were) you either ridiculed the Pops as long whiskered and sockless, or you shook in your boots for fear they would send America straight to the demnition bow-wows.

They didn't. Neither did they elect a president, although at their peak of popularity they had 27 electoral votes, a popular vote of more than a million five senators at Washington and 43 congressmen looking pretty.

But the main point is this:

They didn't capture the government but they DID start things. Much of their platform—so crimson radical and "un-American" in 1891—has become the law of the land.

Just think for a minute what devast-

ating and unholy things the Populists advocated:

- (1)—Postal saving bank (we have it);
- (2)—Parcels post (for years now);
- (3)—Federal income tax (yes, indeed!);
- (4)—Government ownership of railroads, telegraphs and telephones (not yet);
- (5)—Initiative and referendum (in many states);
- (6) Popular election of United States senators (of course.)

Despite all this, God's still in heaven and the government at Washington continues to reign—more or less.

Able Coaching Aided Helen—Helen Moses stands a better chance, today of winning real honors in Antwerp than ever before, according to a letter just received from "Dad" Center in which he tells of the great improvement made in Helen's stroke by De B. Handley, the coach of the New York women's swimming association.

Pele Given 1,000 to 5,000 Years—Dr. Henry S. Washington of the geophysical laboratory of Carnegie Institution, who is attending the scientific congress in Honolulu, says that it is his deduction that Kilauea would be extinct in one to five thousand years.

Pine Shipments Grow—Up to the end of July, the number of cases of pineapples shipped from the Islands number 1,616,000. It is thought that the seasons total will be 6,000,000.

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